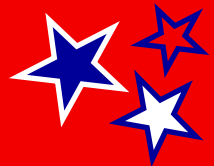


NLSC
2012



***SkillsUSA Kentucky competitors earn
3 BRONZE and 36 top 10 rankings
during 48th National Leadership and Skills Conference
in Kansas City***

***“Champions at Work:
Skilled and Motivated”***



SkillsUSA's mission is to help its members become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens.



There's never been a better time to be SKILLED

2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky members attend 48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference

From June 23-27, 156 members of SkillsUSA Kentucky served as the state's official delegation to the 48th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, MO. The spectacular showcase of career and technical education included more than *"15,000 individuals representing students, teachers, education leaders, and representatives from more than 1,100 national corporations, trade associations, businesses and labor unions"* according to an official SkillsUSA press release.

Photo at right (l to r): Ruth Gray, SkillsUSA state officer advisor; Tim Lawrence, SkillsUSA executive director; and Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY interim director.

At the 2012 Kentucky state conference, custom welding art (Cattails) was a hit – so much so, it even caught the eye of Tim Lawrence during his visit. As a special gift, the cattails were presented to Lawrence at the national conference. He was delighted and said the piece would be put on display in the lobby of national SkillsUSA Headquarters.

The welding art was custom made by students in Scott Metcalf's welding program at the KY Tech-Bullitt Co. Area Technology Center. Metcalf has been praised for his creativity throughout SkillsUSA KY.



There's never been a better time to be SKILLED

★ 2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky members attend 48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference ★

Kentucky's competitors participated in both leadership and skilled events and brought home three (3) bronze medals and 36 top ten placement scores. Additionally, 31 of Kentucky's 114 competitors earned a Skill Point Certificate by meeting a "cut score" in their respective contest. For each of the 86 contests, the Skill Point Certificate lists the competency areas tested in that respective contest. "Cut scores" (most range from 70-80) are determined by the same business and industry leaders who created and defined competencies in each of those national contests. Kentucky competitors who earned a Skill Point Certificate now have documentation to prove their proficiency in each of those contests – backed by business and industry. Certificate holders can use this for employment purposes.



Kentucky registration at the Hilton Garden Inn. From left to right: Faye Campbell, Jimmy Porter and Lauren Gordon wait for room keys. Fran Dundon and Joe Morgan manned the registration desk.

Joe Morgan:
OCTE Branch Manager:

"Wow, what a production! It was my first time attending the National SkillsUSA Leadership Conference and I was completely awed by the magnitude of people, resources and logistics involved in the conference. It was truly an amazing feat to behold."

"I was also impressed by the maturity and professionalism exhibited by the Kentucky SkillsUSA competitors and advisors."

"It was important for me to see the conference firsthand as Kentucky will be the host state in 2015 when the conference arrives in Louisville. It will be a big opportunity for Kentucky to shine as a SkillsUSA Champion."

2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky Skill Point Certificate recipients

(A component of the SkillsUSA Work Force Ready System)



Dakota Arnold, Meade County ATC, First Aid-CPR
Dillon Baker, Bell Co. ATC, Internetworking
Glenn Campbell, Hazard CTC, Welding Sculpture
Jeremiah Carter, Eastside TC, Power Equipment Technology
Andy Creek, Fern Creek HS, Broadcast News Production
Thang Dang, Johnson Central HS, Quiz Bowl
Chris Denney, Pulaski County ATC, TeamWorks
Jeremy Dones, Elizabethtown TC, Diesel Equipment Technology
Jesse Durham, Pulaski County ATC, TeamWorks
Daniel Emler, Pulaski County ATC, TeamWorks
Jonathon Harrison, Rockcastle County ATC, Action Skills
Alicia Heath, Somerset CC, Cosmetology
Autumn Henry, Madison County ATC, T-Shirt Design
Richard Holsendorff, Murray-Calloway County ATC, Commercial Baking
Richard Houston, Jefferson TC, Automotive Service Technology
Chad Kantlehner, Fern Creek HS, Broadcast News Production
Dustin Kiser, Johnson Central HS, Quiz Bowl
Brandon Martin, Meade County ATC, Firefighting
Katie McMahan, Johnson Central HS, Quiz Bowl
Natasha Miller, Somerset CC, Nail Care
Robert Pawley, Harrison County ATC, Welding Sculpture
Aaron Rankin, Paducah ATC, Carpentry
Emily Redding, Fern Creek HS, Broadcast News Production
Kristen Reesor, Fern Creek HS, Broadcast News Production
Cathryn Gayle Roe, Somerset CC, Nail Care
Andrew Salyer, Johnson Central HS, Quiz Bowl
Cole Sites, Johnson Central HS, Quiz Bowl
Steven Smith, Southern HS, Automotive Refinishing
Tyler Tipton, Jr., C E McCormick ATC, Masonry
Trey Williams, Mayfield-Graves County ATC, Electrical Construction Wiring
Jacob Witt, Pulaski County ATC, TeamWorks



*Photo at right:
Aaron Rankin
Paducah ATC*



Photo at left, Back row (l to r): Zach Pierce, (welding fabrication), Chris Denney and Jesse Durham (TeamWorks). Middle row (l to r): Kody Fox and Dakota Carter, both welding fabrication from KY Tech - Lake Cumberland ATC. Front row (l to r) : Daniel Elmer, TeamWorks, KY Tech-Pulaski Co. ATC.

Tyler Tipton, Jr.



2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky advisors attend 48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference

SkillsUSA Kentucky advisors did an awesome job shepherding their students to and from all the orientation meetings, contests, debriefing sessions, and extra-curricular activities. Their dedication is an outstanding testament to the importance of SkillsUSA in the overall growth and development of their students. The time and effort they expended made the overall trip a complete success because they took care of SkillsUSA Kentucky's "Champions at Work"...KUDOS to the advisor team.



Photo (l to r): Jim Bob Hamilton, KY Tech-Millard ATC principal and SkillsUSA regional director; Mac Slone, KY Tech-Lake Cumberland ATC instructor and SkillsUSA advisor; and Lenville Martin, KY Tech-Floyd Co. ATC principal and SkillsUSA KY regional director.



Photo (l to r): Lauren Gordon, Fern Creek High School SkillsUSA KY advisor and Roy Knight, Southern High School SkillsUSA KY advisor on the contest floor.



2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky Advisor Team

48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference

Secondary Advisors

Faye Campbell – Meade Co. ATC
Lauren Gordon – Fern Creek Traditional High School
Donna Ruth Gray – Caldwell Co. ATC (State Officers)
Richard Hall – Southside Technical Center
Kathleen Holman – Murray/Calloway Co. ATC
Tim Huddleston – Bell Co. ATC
Melissa Jones- Russellville ATC
Roy Knight – Southern High School
Daryn Morris – Southside Technical Center
Jimmy Lee Porter – C.E. McCormick ATC
Dolores Rice – Allen Co. CTC
Dwight Richards – Lincoln Co. ATC
John Robinson – Johnson Central High School
Malcolm Slone – Lake Cumberland ATC
Wes Sneed – Barren Co. ATC
Barney Taylor - Lake Cumberland ATC



Postsecondary Advisors

Brent Doty - Elizabethtown CTC
James Leasor - Elizabethtown CTC
Ron Molgaard - Elizabethtown CTC
Rhonda Roark - Elizabethtown CTC
Robert Woodson - Elizabethtown CTC

Tony Back – Hazard CTC
Randy Bowling – Hazard CTC

Laurie Eiden - Jefferson TC
Donald Martin - Jefferson TC
Joseph Myers - Jefferson TC
Keith Watters - Jefferson TC

Curtis Cash - Somerset CC
Jennifer Owens - Somerset CC
Scott Stringer - Somerset CC
Joni Upchurch - Somerset CC
Karl Watson - Somerset CC



A special thank you goes out to Lenville Martin, Floyd Co. ATC and Jim Bob Hamilton, Millard ATC. Both served as the official SkillsUSA Kentucky Tool Transportation Managers.

While in Kansas City, they also provided transportation for Dr. Dale Winkler and Karen Bothun.

*Kudos to Karl Watson
He also served as a Welding Art Sculpture
SkillsUSA national chairman.*

*Curtis Cash and Scott Stringer also serve as
members of the Welding Art Sculpture
national education committee.*

SkillsUSA KY State Officers – Leverage Training

Kentucky's state officer team is important to the overall success of SkillsUSA Kentucky. Why? As a state officer, each represents the entire organization and serves as a point guard. Their image, knowledge, and actions have a significant impact on how people regard the SkillsUSA organization. As part of Kentucky's professional development training for state officers, they are exposed to rigorous leadership training. Officers are key in serving the statewide organization at the Kentucky Leadership Training Institute (KLTI) and annual SkillsUSA KY State Leadership and Skills Conference. Their growth and development means expanding the knowledge they learned at the local and regional levels. Each year, Kentucky's state officers arrive in Kansas City earlier than the entire delegation to attend the national leadership training conference. This year, Kentucky's officers were privileged to attend the newest level of leadership training called "Leverage."

During Leverage training, each officer was able to further develop his or her own leadership knowledge and skills...and, more importantly they were taught how to teach those leadership strategies. This is a critical component and Kentucky's members will benefit over this upcoming year. The state officers will incorporate what they learned into this year's KLTI.



Photo, back row (l to r): Aaron Whitfill, PS; Shelby King, Sec., KY Tech-Paducah ATC; Breanna Matthews, PS, Elizabethtown CTC; and Michael Huddleston, Sec., KY Tech-Bell Co. ATC. Front row (l to r): Josie Monarch, PS, Murray State University; Dakota Bray, Sec., KY Tech-Russellville ATC; and Whitley Brummet, Sec., KY Tech-Caldwell Co. ATC. Not pictured: Kelli Carpenter, Fleming Co. HS.

According to the SkillsUSA website, Leverage is a "high-energy and motivational training that focuses on servant leadership." (For more information, visit the following website: <http://skillsusa.org/events/leverage.shtml>)

Opening Ceremony

48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference



SkillsUSA Kentucky members pose before going into the opening ceremony.

This year, each member of the delegation sported "KY Derby horse hats" and "blinking sunglasses." A brand new SkillsUSA Kentucky banner was carried during the "Parade of States" inside Kemper Arena.

Date: June 25 – 7:00 p.m. - Location: Kemper Arena

**Two of the guest speakers: Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary of Education
Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary of Labor**

Oates:

"Scholarships and internships are wonderful for individuals. Support for SkillsUSA is an investment in capacity building for the American workforce."



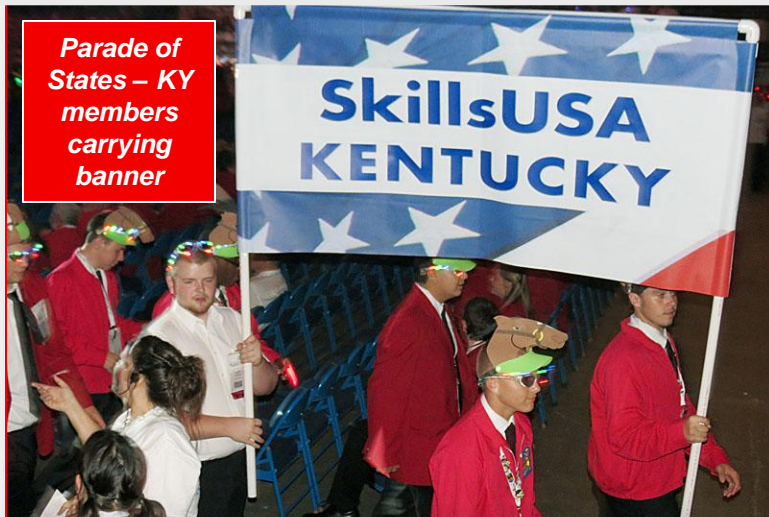


Opening Ceremony



48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference

Parade of States – KY members carrying banner



State Officer Josie Monarch



Dr. Dale Winkler and Karen Bothun

Derby horse hats and lighted/blinked sunglasses were a hit during the NLSC opening session for Kentucky. Even the administrators and advisors enjoyed sporting the look.



Photo above, (l to r): Ruth Gray, Caldwell Co. ATC; Faye Campbell, Meade Co. ATC and Jimmy Lee Porter, C.E. McCormick ATC masonry instructor and SkillsUSA KY advisor.



SkillsUSA honors Steve Phillippi as National Honorary Life Member during 2012 NLSC Opening Ceremony



Steve Phillippi was recognized as a National Honorary Life Member of SkillsUSA during the opening ceremony of the 48th Annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference on June 25. According to an official press release, “this is SkillsUSA’s highest recognition award, given for outstanding service that advances the purposes and goals of the national organization.”

The application for this honor was submitted by SkillsUSA Kentucky interim director Fran Dundon.

Phillippi has been associated with SkillsUSA for more than 40 years, and he was the SkillsUSA Kentucky director for just over 10 years. He also served on the SkillsUSA State Directors Association executive committee during his state director tenure. According to the national office, SkillsUSA Kentucky consistently surpassed membership, scholarship and corporate sponsorship benchmarks under his leadership. Phillippi credits his “army of dedicated volunteers across the state” for the success, but it was an army he helped raise.

“He is truly one of SkillsUSA’s finest examples of leadership, and his legacy runs deep,” said Tim Lawrence, executive director of SkillsUSA.



Photo (l to r): Russ Hoffbauer, president, SkillsUSA Board of Directors; Fran Dundon, SkillsUSA KY interim director and Tim Lawrence, SkillsUSA executive director on stage during opening ceremony. (Photo supplied by SkillsUSA national office.)

Due to illness, Steve Phillippi was unable to attend the national conference to accept his award. Fran Dundon accepted Phillippi’s plaque on his behalf.

Dakota Bray runs for national office

KUDOS to Dakota Bray. While many talk about doing something, SkillsUSA Kentucky state officer Dakota Bray actually did – he ran for a SkillsUSA national office. It's the first time in many years that Kentucky participated in the process and he helped put us back on the national stage. Dakota gave it a valiant effort and we are proud of his professionalism in representing Kentucky.

Bray:

"The results of candidacy were less than satisfactory and it will be used as a great learning experience. I have and will continue to improve on what I have attained through SkillsUSA.

"The whole experience – (from Leverage training to national officer candidacy to being involved in a competitive event) – gave me a completely different perspective than what I began with. My knowledge – it is now a new definition of success. My skill – understanding the value of persistence. My plan - bending over backwards to meet and exceed the expectations we have for SkillsUSA Kentucky over this next year.

"During my national campaign, I promised to give back to the organization that has given me so much. Regardless of the results, a promise is a promise and this next year will be proof. Get ready for community service!

"I challenge our SkillsUSA Kentucky members to think about community service projects, becoming a state officer and hopefully someone will want to further his or her experience by running for a national office next year."



SkillsUSA Kentucky “100% Advisors” recognized during special reception at the College Basketball Experience

Sponsored by: Air Products, Sunday, June 24



Wheeler:

“Attending the SkillsUSA 100% Advisor’s reception was an extremely pleasant experience. It was very rewarding to see how much the sponsors appreciated us for doing the jobs of educating today’s youth in their fields of expertise.

“How much did they appreciate us? It was evident by the extravagant prizes they gave away - seven iPad 2’s, tool packages, as well as trips to Las Vegas for a car repair seminar, fun trips to Holiday World, Kentucky Derby, Disney World, and more. Sadly, I did not walk away with any of these prizes, but it was fun seeing others get excited about their winnings.

“The reception allowed us to experience some indulgent snacks that left most of us with a sugar high for the rest of the evening. The speeches were encouraging from the SkillsUSA national officers and other prominent supporters relaying how important it is to encourage our students to succeed through SkillsUSA and continue to strive for 100% participation every year.”

Photo at left, (l to r): Campbell, Rice and Wheeler.

Faye Campbell, KY Tech-Meade Co. Area Technology Center

Jennifer Owens, Somerset CC

Dolores Rice, Allen County CTC

Malcolm Slone, KY Tech-Lake Cumberland Area Technology Center

Nancy Wheeler, KY Tech-Meade Co. Area Technology Center

Here's what some of our SkillsUSA Kentucky advisors said about the NLSC experience...

Faye Campbell
Principal
KY Tech-Meade Co. ATC



"As an advisor who has been to the national SkillsUSA conference on several occasions, I am in awe every year. To describe the event is not possible. It is amazing to see thousands of capable, skilled SkillsUSA members demonstrating such a wide variety of skills. The enormity of this special occasion is something that every SkillsUSA advisor should be able to experience, and hopefully, more of Kentucky's advisors from all across the state will be able to take part in it first hand in 2015 when it comes back to Kentucky."

"For students, it is a once in a lifetime happening, and for advisors, it is motivating and inspiring. It is awesome!"



Jimmy Lee Porter
Masonry Instructor
KY Tech - C.E.
McCormick ATC

****The "Master"
pin trader.**

Wes Sneed
Machine Tool Instructor
Barren Co. Area Technology Center:



"The National SkillsUSA Conference was a great opportunity for our students to showcase their skills. It was, and always has been, an excellent source of motivation among students. Each student knew that they achieved an enormous accomplishment just making it to this level."

"My hope is that during the week long convention they realized they have acquired knowledge, experience, friendships, and memories that will last a lifetime."

"I participated in the National SkillsUSA (VICA) competitions as a student – it created many opportunities throughout my career, as it will for our participants' this year. SkillsUSA was good to me as a student and I am glad to be part of SkillsUSA as an instructor."

"I would like to say congratulations to all the students who took part in the Kentucky delegation of SkillsUSA – Good Luck in the future!"

Porter:

"I value the students' respect for me as an advisor, appreciate their work ethic in their respective skills, and am amazed at their dedication to the Skills USA vision when attending the national SkillsUSA conference. As I assist these talented young students in being prompt and timely for their events and competitions, it gives me a great sense of pride to watch them progress and gain a multitude of new experiences to enhance their prospective futures!"



Roy Knight, Southern HS, is recognized by state director Fran Dundon for his 32 years of service as a SkillsUSA KY advisor. This was Knight's last trip before he retired.

Knight:

"I began my teaching career at Oldham County Area Vocational Education Center (now the Arvin Education Center) in 1980. Thirty two years later - I have been an advisor or co-advisor of VICA, SkillsUSA VICA and now SkillsUSA at four different schools. One thing has remained the same – the importance of student success!

"I'm very fortunate to have coached a number of state champions, national competitors, top 10's and a national third place. Yes, I did say coach. When preparing students for competition, I look at our programs as leadership and trouble shooting teams. Over the last eighteen years at Southern High Magnet Career Academy, our SkillsUSA students have earned thousands of dollars in scholarships and prizes and most importantly, the ability to get a job in their chosen field. It has helped each student become a well rounded individual. Their experiences at the national competitions are memories they will never forget - nor will I. I am glad I was able to be a part of getting them involved in SkillsUSA and in their success."

Note: On behalf of all our members - A big thanks to Roy – he is a class act and valued member of our SkillsUSA Kentucky Team.

Lauren Gordon
Visual Communication Arts
Fern Creek Traditional High School:

"Attending the national conference was a great experience. Not only were my students able to practice valuable technical and leadership skills, but I found opportunities to make contacts with industry partners and others instructors across the nation that will help as I strive to improve my program. While my students did not medal in their events, they left the conference excited about improving their skills.

Also, as we have only had our chapter at Fern Creek for one year, I know my students will be going back to school and recruiting more members for our club. I expect the SkillsUSA chapter at Fern Creek to double in size this year."

King serves 3rd year as National SkillsUSA Co-Chair of Aviation Maintenance Technology, 20 years on committee

Wayne King
Program Assessment Br. Mgr:



"This year's Aviation Maintenance Technology contest expanded our business and industry opportunities with Cessna Aircraft Company and Aircraft Spruce & Specialties. These additions contribute to the growth and expectation of the contest coming to Louisville in 2015."

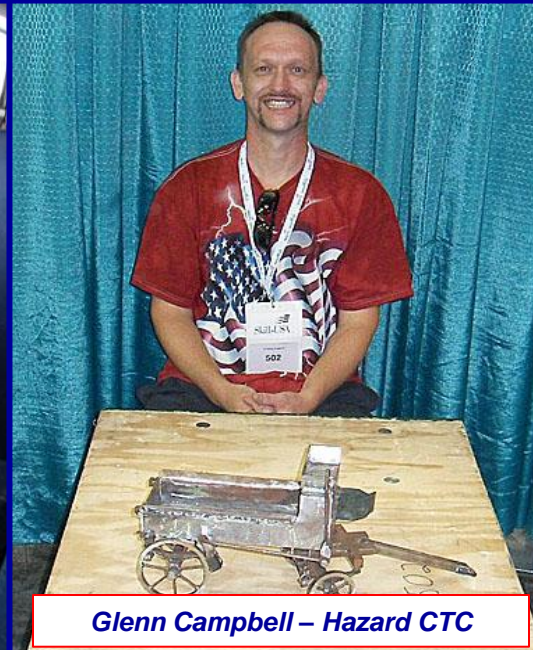
Skilled and Leadership Events

Kentucky's Welding Sculpture - Sec. & PS

Advertising Design



Robert Pawley – Harrison Co. ATC



Glenn Campbell – Hazard CTC



Tiffany Zink– Sullivan CTD



Welding Fabrication:
Kody Fox - one of a 3 man team that included Dakota Carter and Zack Pierce from Lake Cumberland ATC.



Dakota Arnold, Meade Co. ATC

KY Tech-Pulaski Co. ATC represented Kentucky in TeamWorks

Lowe's

National Corporate
Sponsor of SkillsUSA

The Pulaski Co. ATC team of Chris Denney, Jesse Durham, Daniel Elmer, and Jacob Witt represented Kentucky at the national conference. All received a Skill Point Certificate.

TeamWorks is designed to evaluate team preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of residential carpentry, masonry, plumbing, electricity, and teamwork skills.



National Conference competition site.



Pulaski Co. ATC competitors

Each year the SkillsUSA Kentucky director writes a Lowe's grant for the state TeamWorks competition. This year, Lowe's awarded Kentucky \$5,200 to buy supplies and conduct the entire state contest. Lowe's also provided the 1st – 3rd place winners with prizes. Support Lowe's.

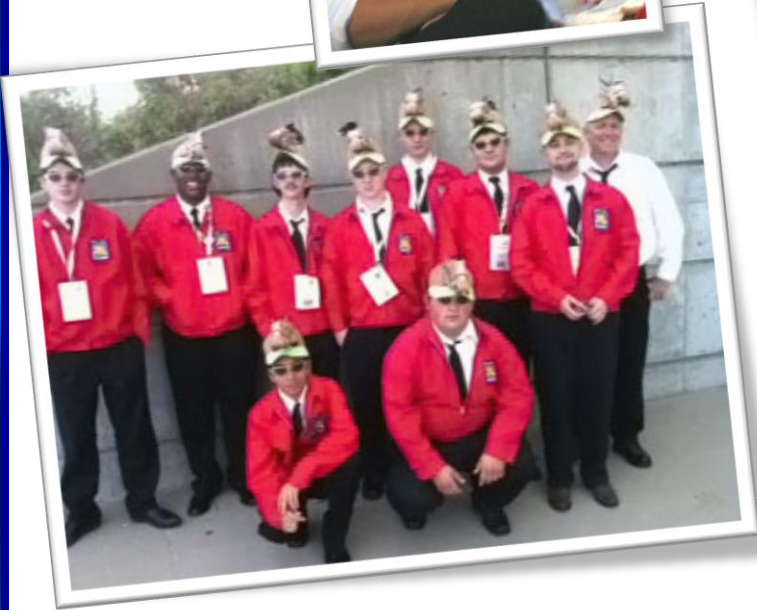




2012 SkillsUSA NLSC Closing Ceremony



Photos: 1st row, far left, (l to r): Whitley Brummett and Dakota Bray, state officers. Second photo: Robert Pawley.
2nd Row: Richard Holsendorff, Murray/Calloway Co. ATC and Jeri Hunt, Carroll Co. ATC.
3rd Row: 1st photo, Southside Technical Center delegation; SkillsUSA KY advisor Richard Hall is on the far right in the white shirt. (photo was submitted by Principal Daryn Morris.) Second photo: Members of the Hazard Community and Technical College SkillsUSA KY chapter (l to r): Randy Bowling, advisor; Glenn Campbell, Michael Williams, Wayne Patterson, Tabitha Collier and Tony Back, advisor.



2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky Bronze Medalists and top 10 winners during the 48th Annual National Leadership and Skills Conference June 20-27, 2012

Kentucky's 3rd Place BRONZE Medalists

- Jared Mattingly, CNC Turning, KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC - (S)
- Dillon Baker, Internetworking, KY Tech-Bell Co. ATC - (S)
- Jeremy Dones, Diesel Equip. Tech., Elizabethtown CTC - (PS)



Photo above, (l to r):
Kentucky's Bronze Medalists
(Dones, Mattingly and Baker) pose with
state director Fran Dundon
at hotel after awards ceremony.

6th Place Winners

- Jonathon Harrison, Rockcastle Co. ATC - Action Skills (S). **Pre: 2nd / Action Skills Final: 6th**
- Jerri Hunt, KY Tech-Carroll Co. ATC, Job Interview (S) **Preliminary: 6th**
- KY Tech - Russellville ATC Team - Opening and Closing Ceremonies **Preliminary (S): 6th**
Members of team include: Dakota Bray, Trevor Brown, Jennifer Gibbs, Taylor Hughes, Brandon Marcum, Jessie Shrum, and Ramon Valentine.

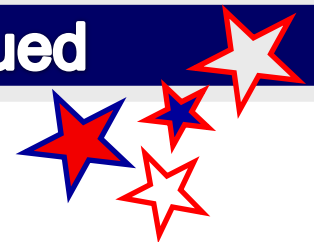
7th Place Winners

- Kevin Cromis, Elizabethtown CTC, CNC Milling (PS)
- Tyler Tipton, Jr., KY Tech-C.E. McCormick ATC. Masonry (S)
- Johnson Central High School - QUIZ Bowl Team (S) – **Preliminary: 1st / Final: 7th place**
Members of team include: Thang Dang, Dustin Kiser, Katie McMahan, Andrew Sayler, and Cole Sites.





2012 SkillsUSA Kentucky winners - continued



7th Place Winners – continued:

- KY Tech-Meade Co. ATC, Chapter Business Procedure Team (S), **Preliminary: 7th place**
Members of team include: Wilson Hembrey, Austin Hunter, Alec Lindsey, Curt Lindsey, Jordan Mattingly, and Daniel Millay
- Michael Huddleston, KY Tech-Bell Co. ATC, Extemporaneous Speaking (S), **Pre: 7th place**

8th Place Winners

- Somerset CC, Automated Manufacturing Technology Team (PS)
Members include: Jeremiah Folger, Harold Ledford, and Larisa Nelson.
- Elizabethtown CTC, Mechatronics Team (PS)
Members include: Patrick Mulligan and Chris Patterson
- Glenn Campbell, Hazard CTC, Welding Sculpture (PS)
- Josie Monarch, KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC, Prepared Speech (S), **Prelim: 8th**

9th Place Winners

- Tiffany Zink, Sullivan CTD , Advertising Design (PS)
- Matthew Richmer, Jefferson TC, Aviation Maintenance Tech (S)
- Jacob Noel, E-town CTC, Industrial Motor Control (PS)

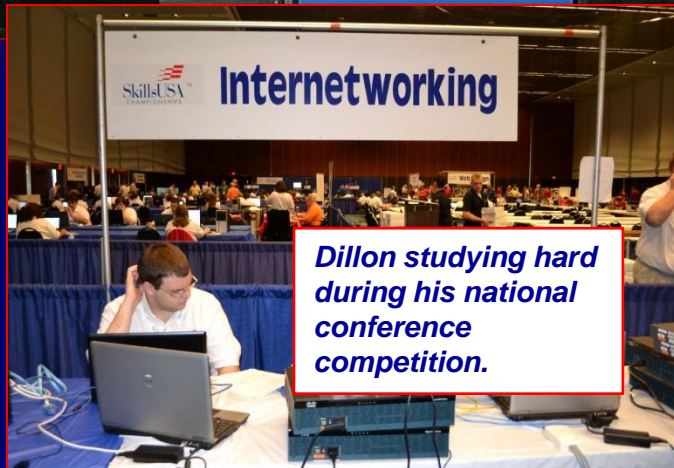


10th Place Winners

- Adam Hayes, Jefferson TC, Aviation Maintenance Tech (PS)
- Jeremiah Carter, Eastside Technical Center, Power Equipment Technology (S)
- Daniel Welch, KY Tech-Shelby Co. ATC, Telecommunications Cabling (S)

DILLON BAKER - BRONZE Medalist
Internetworking, secondary division
KY Tech-Bell Co. ATC

"This is a new level of achievement for me. Competing at a national level has given me a great sense of accomplishment and good memories that I will not soon forget."



Dillon studying hard during his national conference competition.

JARED MATTINGLY - BRONZE Medalist
CNC Turning, secondary division
KY Tech-Breckinridge Co. ATC



*Photos by
Wes Sneed*

Mattingly:

"This is an honor because it's more than a medal. It was an honor to be at the national conference and a great step for me to actually place. I have to thank my instructors Tom Thompson and Dean Monarch for all they did to help me get to where I am today."

JEREMY DONES, BRONZE Medalist
Diesel Equipment Technology, PS Div.
Elizabethtown CTC

“It means a lot to be recognized at a national level. Winning bronze is a great accomplishment for me and for my instructors.”



***Photo above:
Bronze medalist
prizes donated by
Caterpillar - one of the
corporate sponsors
for the diesel
equipment technology
contest.***



John Hodge at the awards ceremony

John C. Hodge, Kentucky SkillsUSA Development Foundation operations director, was responsible for transporting the state officers to Kansas City this year. During the national conference, he also provided transportation for students and advisors to and from various contest sites. His efforts provided numerous members with curb to curb service.

Each year, Hodge takes on the task of making bus arrangements for the SkillsUSA Kentucky delegation. It's one of the numerous partnership activities he provides for SkillsUSA Kentucky on behalf of the Foundation.

SkillsUSA Kentucky recognizes Anne Johnston for a true act of kindness



Photo at right, (l to r): SkillsUSA Kentucky advisor Barney Taylor (Lake Cumberland ATC) and Kody Fox, KY welding fabrication team competitor, recognize Anne Johnston (Hilton Garden Inn employee) for her act of kindness in taking Kody to the hospital on July 23 for a medical emergency.

KUOOS to Kody. Even after a hospital visit and prescribed medication, Kody served his team members well by making each meeting and competing under a medical hardship. What resolve.

Anne Johnston was officially recognized during the SkillsUSA Kentucky banquet on July 27, 2012 following the official awards ceremony closing the 48th National Leadership and Skills Conference. Why? Ms. Johnston took both Taylor and Fox to and from the hospital when Kody suffered a medical emergency on June 23.

“Thank you. What an honor,” said Johnston. “I will always cherish this memory.”

SkillsUSA KY interim director Fran Dundon submitted Ms. Johnston’s name to the Governor’s Office and an official “Kentucky Colonel” was sent to her in appreciation for her kindness in helping a SkillsUSA Kentucky member in need. *“Anne Johnston will always have a place in our hearts,” said Taylor. “The standing ovation that our people gave her shows how much we all respect what she did to help us.”*



Dr. Winkler:

“Today’s students need an education system that provides high-quality, job-training opportunities that reduce skill shortages, spurs business growth, encourages new investment and hires, and sparks innovation and economic development. Career and Technical Education is the vehicle to get us to this level of education, and organizations such as SkillsUSA assist in these endeavors. Thus, I was extremely pleased to witness first-hand the leadership and technical skills on display at the national conference.”

The partnerships required to host an event of this magnitude are huge. I was impressed with the numerous business and industry partners in attendance at the conference. Their presence is evidence of the professional training being provided by SkillsUSA.”

Photo (l to r): Karen Bothun, deputy executive director and Dr. Dale Winkler, executive director of KY CTE visit Kansas City to get a glimpse of what the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference is all about and what type of impact it has on the host state. Kentucky has been chosen to host the 2015 national conference.

Bothun:

“When SkillsUSA executive director Tim Lawrence invited Dr. Winkler and I to be his guests in the VIP program, I never imagined the scope of the skill competitions. We spent an intensive day touring the competitions, meeting with business sponsors, and learning about Kentucky’s role in planning the 2015 national conference in Louisville.”

We were amazed by the business sponsors and prize lists posted by each contest area. The amount donated is a real life changer for some of the students. The tool prizes were equally amazing - a great start for a student entering the career field.

During the business recognition session, a representative from Kansas City tourism announced that each person attending the SkillsUSA Conference brought in over \$600 in economic impact. It will be wonderful to have this economic benefit come to the state of Kentucky.”

SkillsUSA KY Director's year-end message:



It's been a privilege to serve as your SkillsUSA KY interim director for the past year. By working together, we have continued to move the entire organization forward in a positive manner and create some new benchmarks. SkillsUSA holds the keys to so many futures. That's why all of us are united in our SkillsUSA mission – "to help its members become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens." There really is something patriotic about that verbiage and I believe it makes all of us pay attention to who we are and what we do to help our students succeed. In my humble opinion, we all worked toward a common vision.

When former state director Steve Phillippi retired last year because of cancer, we gasped. Our entire SkillsUSA Kentucky nation then became united in making Benchmark #1 – The American Cancer Society/Steve Phillippi Scholarship Project - a complete success. Why? The project was designed to honor his 40 year career and help lift up his spirits during some of his darkest days. AND, many of our members have or know someone who has cancer so they were able to connect with the spirit of the project. Undoubtedly it was one of the greatest projects in SkillsUSA KY history because we raised \$16,460. During a special ceremony at the state conference, Steve and Michelle Phillippi drew 46 lottery tickets worth \$250 each. Forty-six (46) SkillsUSA Kentucky student members received a \$250 scholarship to further his or her education. We also gave the American Cancer Society a \$5,000 donation in Steve Phillippi's name on behalf of SkillsUSA Kentucky. WOW – that speaks volumes for our team!

Benchmark #2 – Business and Industry Sponsorship:

- *SkillsUSA KY Power Partners: Additional business and industry partnerships were developed across the state that resulted in more support and the following donations:*
 - *Contest specific prizes for medal winners*
 - *conference program printed free of charge*
 - *consumable contest supplies*
 - *more industry representatives serving as judges*
- *SkillsUSA KY Advisor Hospitality Room: A special hospitality room was open for two days during state conference to honor the service and dedication of our advisors. It gave them a chance to sit down, eat and network. The project was underwritten by K4C – Kentucky Construction Career Council. In return, SkillsUSA will partner with K4C throughout the upcoming year.*

SkillsUSA KY Director's year-end message – continued:

Benchmark #3 – Fund Raising - prizes for all “Medalists” and gifts for advisors

Our mission - raise money. We did - \$7,800 in cash donations. This year, SkillsUSA KY provided every medal winner at state conference with a prize. In addition to what the national SkillsUSA office does to provide prizes for several contest areas, more Kentucky associations/companies also provided specific contest prizes. Gifts: We honored our secondary and postsecondary advisors of the year Sonja Baker, Lincoln Co. ATC and Karl Watson, Somerset CC) with a 32” flat screen color TV and the Administrator of the Year (Daryn Morris, Southside Technical Center) received a Kindle Fire. We also gave away numerous gift cards and advisor gifts during the advisor meeting. In retrospect - this whole endeavor was one more example of a monumental effort to succeed in delivering results to our members. Again, we succeeded.

All of our preparations over this past year have helped SkillsUSA Kentucky become a stronger and more unified organization. After state, we turned our focus to the national conference. We helped make the experience something that everyone would remember. During this year's trip, we added some extra touches – a reception upon arrival for our members, Kentucky derby hats, lighted glasses and a new SkillsUSA banner for the “Parade of States,” local bus travel by our own chartered buses and a Kansas City BBQ buffet banquet after the awards program. We believe we made our entire delegation feel special and cared for during this trip. At least, that was the goal!

The NLSC serves as the final yearly SkillsUSA highlight event and Kentucky's delegation was 156 strong in Kansas City, MO from June 23-27, 2012. Our competitors earned 3 bronze medals and 36 top ten placement scores. Congratulations to all the advisors for their dedication and to all of our members for their hard work. It takes an army to make this happen and you came prepared to serve.

What a great year for SkillsUSA Kentucky. While we have and continue to do a tremendous amount of work, there is always more to be done. This next year will be filled with getting more students involved in SkillsUSA chapters across the state – reaching 100% participation, leadership development, industry sponsorship, fund raising for scholarships and prizes, and coordination of statewide community service projects. Step up and join in...we need all of you. Thank you for your time, your efforts and your energy. We have made a difference and that's what counts!

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